Request for President's Rule in Orissa

*49. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests have been received from cyclone affected people of Orissa to impose President's rule in that State, in view of the total break-down of the State's administrative machinery; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b): There is no proposal before Government to place the State of Orissa under President's rule by invoking the provisions of article 356 of the Constitution of India.

Closure of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.

*50. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to shut down the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML).

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether before taking a decision on the closure, the questions of the fate of employees, their compensation package and utilisation of the related infrastructure were resolved to the satisfaction of the workers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK): (a) Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) stands referred to the Board For Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 for its decision on rehabilitation of the sick company. The Government have not taken any decision to shut down BGML.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.